

To Members of the Finance Committee:

My name is Adam Olshan and I reside in Glastonbury. I am an East Hartford attorney and my firm employs approximately 140 Connecticut residents. I urge you to oppose HB 6349 An Act Concerning The Sales Tax On Services.

Over the weekend the Hartford Courant cited an expert as believing that Connecticut will lose as many as 60,000 jobs over the next two years. The title of that article was SPOOKED BUSINESSES SHEDDING JOBS AT ALARMING RATE.

If enacted into law, this Bill will cause many additional jobs losses at SPOOKED Connecticut law firms OF ALL SIZES - either through:

- 1) further law firm employee layoffs,
- 2) law firms moving to NY, RI or MA,
- 3) law firms off shoring functionality now performed by local employees or
- 4) law firm closures.

Most local law firms currently operate at very tight margins and this sudden and significant expense would cause IMMEDIATE job losses for many talented local citizens.

This is not a prudent way to attempt to create a new income stream for the State at this time.

Clients will balk at accepting this surcharge because they cannot currently afford any increase in rates - this is true for individual clients, mom and pop business clients as well as major corporation clients.

And law firms surely cannot afford such a new expense during this time of vanishing law firm business margins which have caused recent staff layoffs.

It would be counterproductive for Connecticut to enact this law.

Let's find ways to invest in our local law firms and create new jobs rather than spooking firms OF ALL SIZES which will cause more lost Connecticut jobs.

I urge your Opposition to HB 6349 An Act Concerning The Sales Tax On Services.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adam Olshan